

the
*Honorary
Degree*



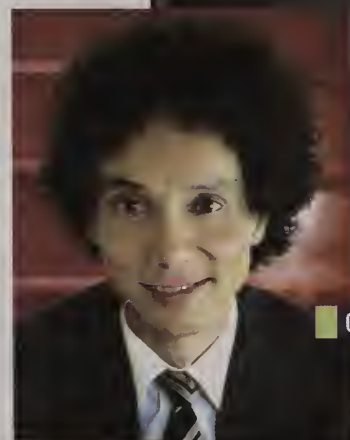
PHILANTHROPY & PUBLIC SERVICE

SONIA LABATT (PICTURED)
ARTHUR LABATT
KOH YONG GUAN
PAUL MARTIN
ANNE SADO
JOHN H. DANIELS
DAVID M. & J. MOFFAT DUNLAP



GREAT KNOWLEDGE CONTRIBUTIONS

MLADEN VRANIC (PICTURED)
MICHAEL LAPIDGE
BERT WASMUND



GREAT GLOBAL CONTRIBUTIONS

MALCOLM GLADWELL (PICTURED)
NANDAN NILEKANI
CRAIG & MARC KIELBURGER

Convocation 2011

GREAT GLOBAL CONTRIBUTIONS

MALCOLM GLADWELL



The author of international bestsellers such as *Outliers*, *What The Dog Saw*, *Blink* and *The Tipping Point*, Gladwell graduated from

Trinity College in 1984 with a degree in history. A staff writer at the *New Yorker* since 1996, Gladwell was named one of the world's 100 most influential people by *Time Magazine* in 2005 and in 2009 he was named one of the 100 top global thinkers by *Foreign Policy* magazine.

Significance of the honorary degree:

"If I had known, 20 years ago, that I could get a degree from the U of T without going to class, it would have changed my undergraduate experience considerably. The only other honorary degree I've ever gotten was from the University of Waterloo, the university in my hometown. When I got that degree all I could think of was what John F. Kennedy (a Harvard grad) said when he got an honorary degree from Yale: 'Now I have the best of both worlds — a Yale degree and a Harvard education.'"

Thoughts on U of T:

"On my floor in my second year at Trinity, Jim Balsillie, of RIM fame, was across the hall and next door to him was Nigel Wright — who I gather is now, basically, running Canada. At the time, Jim was broke and Nigel looked about 12 years old. Apparently things have changed."

Role of the university today:

"My tuition at the U of T, in the early 1980s, was under \$1,000 a year. An affordable college education is one of the greatest building blocks of social mobility. We need to remember that."

NANDAN NILEKANI



Nandan Nilekani is co-founder of Infosys Technologies Ltd., a global corporation that has placed India at the forefront

of information technology services. Nilekani's book *Imagining India: The Idea of a Renewed Nation* sets out his vision for the future of India.

Significance of the honorary degree:

"I consider the honorary degree from the University of Toronto a very significant honour. Since taking up my job as chairman of the Unique Identification Authority of India, I have decided not to travel outside India and focus on my work. I have made only two exceptions — to receive this degree and to attend my daughter's graduation!"

Thoughts on U of T:

"The University of Toronto is a truly outstanding university and I am very privileged to be honoured by it. It is a truly global university and is a worthy symbol of the stature and diversity of today's Canada."

Role of the university today:

"Universities today are critical in modern society. Strategically, being at the forefront of the knowledge frontier has been a crucial aspect of advancement

over the course of history. The risk of knowledge obsolescence can only be addressed through a strong knowledge-based society and economy. Such an environment will naturally support universities that are at the frontiers of knowledge, which house specialists in every imaginable discipline."

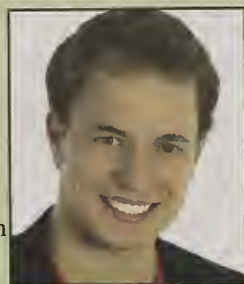
CRAIG & MARC KIELBURGER



At age 12, Craig Kielburger (left), with his 17-year-old brother Marc (below), founded the charity Free The Children, dedicated to

empowering young people, at home and around the world, to fulfil their potential as agents of change. Today, Free The Children involves more than one million

young people in more than 45 countries and has built more than 650 schools and schoolrooms, in addition to clean water projects and alternative income initiatives, in seven countries.



Significance of the honorary degree:

"It's very significant and very dear to receive this honour from the University of Toronto. I have a history of missing convocations due to my work with Free The Children. I missed my Grade 8 graduation due to travelling in Haiti and I missed my convocation from U of T as well. I know my parents will be so excited for me to finally walk across the stage, especially given that this university is my father's alma mater. Having obtained my degree in peace and conflict studies from U of T, it's incredibly exciting for me." C.K.

Thoughts on U of T:

"So many of my fondest memories come from my time at U of T. Although I was often travelling and away from classes, I lived on campus for all four years of my studies. The two most important aspects of my life were Free The Children and U of T. Fortunately, I was able to combine the two with the help of great friends and the beginnings of a Free The Children chapter on campus. Me to We Style was introduced in the campus store and the student body contributed to adopting a village in Kenya."

"Now, some of our key team members are U of T graduates. Alumni travel with us on trips overseas. And the fact that I went to university in my hometown allows me to maintain close relationships with professors and friends. I'm so grateful to the university for all of the above." C.K.

Role of the university today:

"I strongly believe that university must be a place not only of higher education but of higher values. My time at U of T was so special. Even though the equations from my stats class are a little foggy and I don't remember all of the history dates I memorized, I'll never forget the human experience. As a student in the peace and conflict studies program, I was able to strengthen my commitment to social justice issues. I'm so honoured to have a continuing relationship with this outstanding institution of higher learning." C.K.

PHILANTHROPY & PUBLIC SERVICE

SONIA LABATT

Sonia Labatt holds a PhD in environmental management from the University of Toronto and is an adjunct faculty member with the Centre



for Environment. A distinguished volunteer and philanthropist, she is a long-serving member of the Faculty of Arts and Science Dean's Advisory Board and an Arbor Award winner.

Significance of the honorary degree:

"It has special significance for me, since it is being conferred by my own alma mater. I have received all three of my degrees at U of T. This is not usual, but in my case the first and second degrees were separated by over 25 years (1960 and 1989)."

Thoughts on U of T:

"At the University of Toronto, students have access to the best instruction and the benefits of advanced research. They have impressive choices among very strong programs, with access to interdisciplinary and cross-disciplinary teachings. All of this opens up opportunities for them to think creatively and with imagination."

Role of the university today:

"There is no doubt in my mind that universities have a major role to play in preparing individuals for the changes and challenges of today's world. Higher education is critical to Canada's future, to make us as individuals and as a country more competitive and prosperous. We need today's graduates, and institutions such as the University of Toronto, to think differently in order to drive creative thinking and innovative approaches to difficult situations in today's complex world."

ARTHUR LABATT



Arthur Labatt, co-founder and former president of Trimark Financial, is a past chancellor of the University of Western

Ontario and the founding chair and director of the KiBO Foundation.

Elected to the fellowship of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario in 1997, the distinguished volunteer and philanthropist was named an officer of the Order of Canada in 1996.

Significance of the honorary degree:

"Being awarded an honorary degree from an accredited university is a very important milestone in a person's life. An LLD (*honoris causa*) from the University of Toronto is an incredible honour. Over the years I have become well acquainted with U of T, both through Sonia's association with this prestigious university and through my involvement with a number of its teaching hospitals."

Thoughts on U of T:

"Canada has a number of truly world-class institutions and the University of Toronto certainly ranks among them. With half a million alumni spread

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Meet the honorary graduates of 2011
dedicated their lives to imagination
They demonstrate the depth of knowledge
that awaits you

around the world it is well known for its excellence in teaching and research. The university and its teaching hospitals have by far the largest research budget in Canada. It has produced 10 Nobel laureates and there are many famous discoveries emanating from U of T. The discovery of insulin is a prime example. The stem cell was discovered in 1963 and the first artificial pacemaker came from here."

Role of the university today:

"One of the largest concentrations of biotech firms in the world resides within two kilometres of the downtown campus. These firms have more than 5,000 principal investigators on staff. This is an incredible institution."

KOH YONG GUAN



The high commissioner of Singapore to Canada, Koh Yong Guan is one of the most esteemed public servants in the modern history of

Singapore. As a Columbo Plan scholar from 1966 to 1972 he completed two degrees in engineering at U of T. He now serves as the chair of Singapore's national pension fund.

Significance of the honorary degree:

"I received my BSc in 1970 and MSc in 1972. I had wanted to do my PhD at U of T but had to return to Singapore because I was a scholarship student and post-independent Singapore desperately needed people for its civil service. This honorary degree fulfils that aspiration. I feel the honour even more deeply because it is from U of T."

Thoughts on U of T:

"The period between 1966 and 1972 when I was at U of T was probably the most colourful and eventful one. The hippie and flower-power culture was in full bloom and there was the Vietnam War and the first landing on the moon, which we watched live in front of city hall. The campus, and campus life at St. George, was very much part of the canvas of life during this exciting period. Some of it was shocking for those of us from the more conservative Asian cultures, but you very soon adapted and got used to it."



SITY OF ONTO

11, exceptional individuals who have
ing and creating a better world.
h and breadth of possibilities
our students.

"My wife and I walked around the St. George campus last September. I could not help feeling that all the young students walking around were very much like we were and how we felt when I first arrived on campus more than 40 years ago. At the end of the day, our aspirations and values are surprisingly similar."

Role of the university today:

"U of T was where I spent an important part of my life. I went through its doors and it is part of my life. The undergraduate and postgraduate programs were the structured parts that shaped and enforced the discipline in the way I think and see and analyze problems, and more important, find solutions to them. For this, U of T has equipped me remarkably well. Most important, my years at U of T equipped me to learn and relearn things. I have no doubt it will continue to do so for the generations of young students who will come through its doors."

"But there is another aspect. The years at St. George gave me the opportunity to live life experiences and make friends — many of whom are lifelong friends, Canadians and non-Canadians. Friends are an invaluable group you will increasingly appreciate through the journey of life."

"The university is all that and much more, and will continue to be so."

PAUL MARTIN



Canada's 21st prime minister graduated from St. Michael's College and from the university's Faculty of Law.

Paul Martin oversaw the Kelowna Accord, an historic consensus with provincial, territorial and aboriginal leaders to improve the lives of aboriginal Canadians. Since leaving office Martin has worked to promote social and economic development in Africa and among aboriginal Canadians.

Significance of the honorary degree:

"I'm very proud of being a graduate of the University of Toronto law school and of St. Mike's before that. The fact

that I will be receiving this honorary degree along with this year's graduating class from the law school fills me with a great deal of emotion and gratitude, despite the fact that I would not have had the marks to get in when they did."

Thoughts on U of T:

"The University of Toronto is one of the world's great universities. I speak to many audiences in and out of Canada these days and whenever I'm being introduced I always insist that they include the fact that I graduated from the University of Toronto. I don't do that because I bring honour to the university — I do it because the university brings honour to me."

"Of course if I had to name the person from the University of Toronto who had the greatest influence on my life it would be my wife, Sheila. She graduated from University College the same year I graduated from the law school. (I've always said if she wants to get a real education, she can go back to U of T again and go to St. Mike's — college rivalries are still strong. Sheila has asked for the right of reply: I told her no way, this is my blurb.)"

"I graduated 50 years ago but every spring I have the same recurrent nightmare. I'm just sitting down at an exam for a course I have no recollection of ever attending — and I look at the questions and I don't recognize a single one of them. I suppose I'm going to have that dream for the rest of my life."

Role of the university today:

"For a time, it seemed people considered knowledge mostly for the sake of their careers. Education became very quantitative and the ability to model things and produce arithmetical answers became incredibly important. Many will disagree, but I believe in the notion of knowledge for the sake of knowledge. You can't model everything — the unexpected does happen and you prepare for it by developing critical thinking, qualitative judgment and an understanding of history."

"When I look at the current crop of students I feel terrific. These are not easy economic times but when I speak to students and hear of their ambitions I feel incredibly encouraged and incredibly impressed."

ANNE SADO



The president of George Brown College, Anne Sado graduated from engineering at the University of Toronto in 1977 and from the Rotman

School of Management in 1981. She has served as president of the YWCA of Metropolitan Toronto, chair of the Trillium Health Centre, member of the advisory board for the Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering and member of the advisory board for the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education.

Significance of the honorary degree:

"This means a great deal. It's a wonderful recognition of my career and volunteer accomplishments — made even more meaningful because it's recognition by my peers in education."

Thoughts on U of T:

"I'm eternally proud of my choice to attend U of T. My experiences at U of T helped shape my approaches to my career and to the relationships I have considered so critical to my success."

"On my first day of engineering, another female student welcomed me and strongly encouraged me to sign up for the volleyball, basketball and hockey teams. I can't quite remember the words she used but it seemed like more than just an invitation to come out and play some sports. I later learned that almost all of the women enrolled in engineering had to sign up or we wouldn't have enough players to field a team! The enrolment of women in engineering still lags that of other professional faculties but it is significantly better than in the 70s. I was one of only four women in my industrial engineering class!"

Role of the university today:

"Given Canada's aging demographic profile and the structural changes in our economy, education is critical to the social and economic development of our city, province and country. To meet the labour market needs of our economy we will need at least 70 per cent of the population to have a post-secondary credential. Today's level is about 62 per cent. That is a very strong result compared to other jurisdictions but not enough for the future. Research is also critical for our success. We must develop innovation literacy in students at all levels — developing highly qualified and skilled personnel — to drive us to more competitive levels of achievement."



JOHN H. DANIELS

Renowned philanthropist and developer John Daniels graduated in 1950 from the University of Toronto's

School of Architecture. He led Cadillac Fairview Corporation for 20 years, working on landmark projects such as the Toronto Dominion Centre and the Eaton Centre.

Since 1983, The Daniels Corporation has supported many charitable initiatives and in 2008, Daniels gave the university the largest ever private gift to an architecture school in Canada.

Significance of the honorary degree:

"As the son of a teacher and having grown up in an environment of educators, this recognition has a special significance to me and my family. To be welcomed into the RAIC College of Fellows one year, followed by an honorary degree from the University of Toronto this year, is a most humbling and totally unexpected experience."

Thoughts on U of T:

"The University of Toronto and particularly the School of Architecture has broadened my knowledge of development of building and construction, sharpened my creative instincts and prepared me to face the challenges of today's world and succeed in a competitive environment."

Role of the university today:

"I believe that the university must be a place that frames the whole person and his life values and leads one to a full and meaningful life."

DAVID M. DUNLAP AND J. MOFFAT DUNLAP



Distinguished volunteers and philanthropists, the Dunlaps' significant endowed gifts to establish the Dunlap Institute of Astronomy

and Astrophysics built on a legacy that began with their family's establishment of the Dunlap Observatory in 1935. David (above), who graduated from engineering at the University of Toronto in 1961, and Moffat (below), an equestrian and

former show jumping World Champion, have been tireless supporters of education, health-care and equine research at Guelph University and Seneca and Humber Colleges.

Significance of the honorary degree:

"With the establishment of the David Dunlap Observatory in 1935, our grandmother's intention was abundantly clear — she was determined to establish a worldwide reputation of excellence for the U of T's Department of Astronomy. Our contribution towards the establishment of the Dunlap Institute was simply to divine and then carry out the decisions she would have made had she been alive to carry them out herself. To be recognized for our 25-year effort in that regard is rewarding indeed." J. Moffat Dunlap

Thoughts on U of T:

"Not an ordinary place this U of T — so many opportunities to explore so many different fields. If ever asked by a new student for advice as to how to spend one's time at this marvellous institution, I would counsel that person to take full advantage of what is offered and never, ever miss a chance to try something new." David Dunlap

Role of the university today:

"When one reads about the huge increase in the number of institutions of higher learning being established around the world and especially in countries such as China and India, the need to run, just to stay in the race, is daunting. Excellence in research and education, which is what the U of T is all about, must never be allowed to falter and fully deserves the support of its many graduates."

GREAT KNOWLEDGE CONTRIBUTIONS

MLADEN VRANIC



Professor Emeritus Mladen Vranic was one of the last post-doctoral fellows to work with Dr. Charles Best. A world-renowned

expert in diabetes, Vranic's groundbreaking work in the field of glucose metabolism, exercise, hypoglycemia and stress transformed the landscape of diabetes research. Through nearly five decades of scholarship, Vranic has taught and mentored many

... continued ON PAGE S4

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of the current leaders in the field.
Significance of the honorary degree:

"I was honoured to receive the Order of Ontario and the Order of Canada but I think the honorary degree is the greatest honour you can have from your own university. I've loved every second of my academic life and it is very rewarding to know that peers consider what I have done to be of value to our society. It validates my life's work and it's marvellous to be recognized by my adopted country. It's a great feeling."

Thoughts on U of T:

"The University of Toronto is a truly great institution that attracts some of the most outstanding faculty and students from around the world. Early in my career, I was drawn here because of its international research reputation. The discovery of insulin in 1921, in our Department of Physiology, is one of the most important medical breakthroughs ever made and had a profound institutional impact. The excellence of its programs and the collaborative interdisciplinary culture are key to the kind of innovative research that leads to major discoveries."

Role of the university today:

"Universities are the instruments by which civilization moves forward. They nourish and enable creative thinking and the unbiased search for truth. They encourage meaningful discourse and competitive thinking so that individuals facing everyday challenges can collectively make the country more prosperous. In the field of medicine, the progress has been more spectacular over the past 60 years than ever before, and there is a direct line to the university research that has led to dramatically improved mortality and morbidity throughout the world."

MICHAEL LAPIDGE



In 1971, Professor Michael Lapidge became one of the first people to graduate with a PhD from the University

of Toronto's Centre for Medieval Studies. Today the Emeritus Fellow of Clare College, Cambridge, is the author or co-author of more than 200 publications and one of the world's foremost scholars in medieval studies, recognized by such academic bodies as the British Academy, the Bayerische Akademie der Wissenschaften and the Accademia dei Lincei.

Significance of the honorary degree:

"An honorary degree from the institution which is my alma mater is a matter of great pride and joy. I may be the first graduate of the centre to be awarded an honorary degree but I will certainly not be the last: for more than 40 years the centre has been producing graduates of the highest quality, many of whom now have pre-eminent standing in medieval studies in North American universities."

Thoughts on U of T:

"The Centre for Medieval Studies is regarded throughout North America and Europe as the outstanding centre of its kind in the world. It has achieved this reputation, in my view, by maintaining the high standards that it has expected of its graduates from the very beginning, in particular, by requiring from them proficiency in Latin. Latin was the lingua franca of medieval Europe, written and spoken by anyone who was literate; it is simply impossible to study medieval literature and history, art history and philosophy at a sophisticated

level without fluent understanding of Latin."

Role of the university today:

"For the medieval scholar of today, the availability of huge databases makes it possible to read through vast numbers of medieval texts in seconds; but I often find in the work of today's scholars that the results obtained so quickly by searches through electronic corpora are inadequately understood and can only be properly understood if the searcher has sound knowledge of Latin. The Centre for Medieval Studies at U of T is exceptional in requiring all of its graduates a high competence in Latin."



BERT WASMUND

An international expert in metallurgical and chemical processes for smelting metals, Bert Wasmund

is renowned for his technological innovations that reduced energy consumption and harmful emissions while improving workplace health and safety. The executive director of Hatch Ltd. received his PhD in chemical engineering from the University of Toronto in 1966.

Significance of the honorary degree:

"I believe an honorary degree from one's alma mater is of very special importance. U of T is where I honed my chemical engineering skills and was trained during my doctoral studies to develop the self-discipline required to formulate and develop innovative solutions to major industrial problems."

"This recognition reinforces our close ties with academia. Dr. Henry S. Acres,

who founded our predecessor company, Hatch Energy, was the world's pioneer developer of hydroelectricity facilities at Niagara Falls. He was recognized in 1924 with an honorary DSc from his alma mater, U of T. Today, we fund engineering research chairs, graduate and undergraduate scholarships, participate on advisory boards, and most important, have access to well-trained engineering employees for our company."

Thoughts on U of T

"I obtained superb training from excellent U of T staff that included many young professors brought in from outside, along with well-established innovative, entrepreneurial professors. My small one-bedroom apartment across from the Wallberg Chemical Engineering Building was not fancy but it was inhabited by very interesting and friendly academic people — and it enabled 24-hour access to my research laboratory in the Wallberg Building."

"I enjoyed the fellowship of a marvellous group of fellow graduate students who socialized and worked together very collegially. U of T graduate students and professors of the 1960s have maintained close relationships and still hold regular dinners where we share past experiences and present ideas."

Role of the university today

"Our world has entered a massive, largely uncontrolled experiment. Its population has burgeoned and developed an insatiable appetite for our limited resources such as oil, water, food, land, minerals, etc. Clearly, new innovative solutions are essential. The responsibility for developing these solutions lies collectively with our governments, industrial/resource bases and especially the education and research conducted in our universities. The University of Toronto excels at meeting these needs."

A Message From the Chancellor

The Honourable David Peterson

Each spring, faculty and staff look forward with eager anticipation to the sound of the carillon ringing out across the St. George campus and the sight of black-gowned students making their way to Convocation Hall where family and friends wait to celebrate their achievements.

Convocation is many faceted. At times it resembles an enormous wedding — a sprawling, joyous gathering of family and friends. Yet it is also a solemn occasion of great pageantry and tradition. Convocation offers a time to reflect upon the milestones achieved and the challenges that will follow. And it offers the university community an opportunity to acknowledge how far our dedicated students have come and how much further they may travel.

Each year, our graduates are joined by a select group of extraordinary men and women whose part in this ritual is significant. They are here to receive an honorary degree, one of the highest distinctions a university can confer. Most receive this honour in acknowledgment of a lifetime of work — although this is not always so. As you'll see from this year's list, some of our distinguished recipients have accomplished a great deal in astonishingly few years.

An honorary degree reflects the values of this university: our belief in the power of ideas; our commitment to leadership and excellence; the pursuit of knowledge; and the building of a better society. The exceptional men and women chosen to receive this

honour have created works and achieved accomplishments that inspire us; they embody the strength, vitality and openness of the university, the boldness and imagination of our faculty and students.

This year's honorary degree recipients join their names to an august list. The first person to receive an honorary degree from the university was Professor Henry Holmes Croft in 1850. In the years since, we have recognized a diverse array of powerful, inspiring voices, including: Sir John A. Macdonald and Sir Wilfrid Laurier; Frederick Banting, Charles Best and J. J. R. Macleod; Vincent Massey; Billy Bishop; Bora Laskin; Margret Atwood; Oscar Peterson; Roberta Bondar; Aung San Suu Kyi; Rick Hansen; Desmond Tutu; Toni Morrison; Atom Egoyan; Ernest McCulloch and James Till; Jane Goodall; and Neil Sterritt.

I am proud that so many alumni are receiving this honour. These remarkable people have dedicated their lives to imagining and creating a better world.

They are public servants and philanthropists, researchers and teachers, writers, leaders — they are people who have asked difficult questions, offered new ways of looking at the world and made significant global contributions. They reflect the values and strengths of the University of Toronto and they demonstrate to our students the depth and breadth of the realm of possibilities that await them.

Approximately 12,500 students will graduate from the University of Toronto this spring in ceremonies



replete with rituals that date back centuries. A great many faculty and staff make a point of attending convocation each year. They look forward, as I do, to this wonderful event. They welcome one more opportunity to demonstrate support for our students' dedication and pride in our students' achievements. Please join me in congratulating the graduates and honorary graduates of 2011.



UNIVERSITY OF
TORONTO

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CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR HONORARY DEGREES

The honorary degrees committee welcomes nominations for honorary degrees to be awarded at convocations in 2012 and 2013. To nominate your choice, forms are available on the Governing Council website, <http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/bac/hd.htm>. The committee will begin its deliberations in September.

WWW.NEWS.UTORONTO.CA/BULLETIN.HTML

Convocation 2011

Honorary Degrees -
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MAY 25, 2011 64th year, number 17

the Bulletin

U OF T WILL BESTOW 15 HONORARY DEGREES

BY JENNIFER LANTHIER

As graduating students make their way to Convocation Hall this spring, they'll join outstanding scholars, innovative thinkers, humanitarians, dedicated public servants and leading philanthropists — many of whom are alumni — receiving honorary doctorates.

Among the 15 individuals receiving honorary degrees are influential thinkers and authors **Malcolm Gladwell**, **Craig** and **Marc Kielburger** and **Nandan Nilekani**.

"Malcolm Gladwell's work has had a global impact on how people think about the social sphere and human potential," said President **David Naylor**. "I am sure his remarks to our graduates will be memorable."

Nilekani, co-founder of Infosys Technologies Ltd, will receive an honorary doctor of laws degree May 31 at 2:30 p.m. Humanitarians **Craig** — who graduated from U of T in 2006 — and **Marc Kielburger** will receive honorary doctor of laws degrees June 8 at 2 p.m. Gladwell, who graduated from the university in 1984, will receive an honorary doctor of letters degree June 14 at 10 a.m.

The university will also confer honorary degrees on outstanding scholars. Professor Emeritus **Mladen Vranic** of U of T's physiology and medicine departments, an internationally renowned leader in diabetes research, will receive an honorary doctor of science degree June 1 at 2:30 p.m.

"Mladen Vranic has been an important part of the university since Professor **Charles Best**, the co-discoverer of insulin, asked Dr. Vranic to be his last postdoctoral fellow," said Naylor.

Bert Wasmund, executive director of Hatch Ltd., will receive an honorary doctor of engineering degree June 15 at 2:30 p.m. and University of Cambridge professor **Michael Lapidge**, one of the world's foremost scholars in medieval studies and one of the first PhD graduates of the renowned Centre for Medieval Studies at U of T, will receive an honorary doctor of letters degree June 10 at 2:30 p.m.

Outstanding public servants and philanthropists receiving honorary doctorates are:

Alumnus **John H. Daniels**, who gave the university the largest-ever private gift to an architecture school in Canada (June 2 at 2:30 p.m.).

Paul Martin, Canada's 21st prime minister and a graduate of St. Michael's College and the university's Faculty of Law (June 3 at 10 a.m.).

The high commissioner of Singapore

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JOHNNY GUATTO

David Berkal, a peace and conflict studies graduand, has created two programs focused on improving the lives of those with fewer opportunities.

Graduating student builds bridges of understanding

BY ELAINE SMITH

U of T has been **David Berkal's** studio for the past four years, but the world has been his canvas.

Berkal, a graduating peace and conflict studies student, has used his studies as the backdrop for creating community service programs that build bridges of understanding between cultures. His work as one of the founders of Operation Groundswell (www.operationgroundswell.com) and the Canadian Roots Exchange (www.canadianroots.ca) is among the reasons he received the Faculty of Arts and Science Dean's Student Leadership Award.

Before beginning his university studies at U of T, Berkal took a year off to travel to Ghana where he worked to set up Operation Groundswell, a program offering students volunteer opportunities abroad that allow them to experience a new culture first-hand while giving something back. The not-for-profit organization began by offering a single volunteering trip annually but the demand has led to real growth. There are 14 trips to all parts of the globe scheduled this year.

"Students are looking to go abroad in a meaningful way before, during and after university and this fills that need," said Berkal, who serves as the organization's executive director. "It's more than a one-time program. We're building a network of like-minded people."

A couple of years into his university career, Berkal and an international relations student joined forces to create the Canadian Roots Exchange, a vehicle for forging ties between non-aboriginal and indigenous people and showcasing the strengths of First Nations

communities. With the help of Professor **Cynthia Wesley-Esquimaux**, the project has grown beyond campus boundaries to include students across Canada.

"All aboriginal communities are so different from each other but they share a common history of oppression from the state," said Berkal. "Trauma has been passed down from older generations but there is also incredible resiliency and good humour."

"You see how much aboriginal communities have to offer Canadian society."

Both programs grew organically out of Berkal's own passions.

"I have always been interested in international issues, global development and entrepreneurship," he said. "These are a natural marriage of the two."

Entrepreneurship will take most of Berkal's energies during the coming months, leaving him no time to slow down after convocation. He is one of three dozen students nationwide selected to take part in the inaugural The Next 36 entrepreneurship program, a unique national program that aims to transform Canada's most promising undergraduate students into high-impact entrepreneurs, thus increasing Canadian prosperity. While working on team projects, the students are exposed to some of North America's top experts in entrepreneurial education.

When the program ends Aug. 15, Berkal will finally be able to take a deep breath and make time for some recreational travel. Meanwhile, he's thankful to those who have helped him along the way.

"None of it has been done alone, that's for sure," he noted. "I couldn't have accomplished this without some wonderful people and networks."

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Convocation ...

is **almost** upon us. From May 31 to June 17, the St. George campus will be overflowing with students and their families, splashing King's College Circle with joy and goodwill.

What a lovely time of year! For graduating students, spring convocation will mean the culmination of years of hard work. It's an opportunity to reflect upon all they've learned, cherish the memories they've made at the University of Toronto and look towards the future. Those of us lucky enough to have offices near Convocation Hall will be reminded daily that the future is bright and dreams do come true. All of that elbow grease does pay off!

Read profiles of some of our amazing grads on pages 6 and 7 and you'll get a flavour of the wonderful, talented students who walk through our doors. There are thousands more who are equally energetic and determined.

These graduands will also have the opportunity to share their special day with someone who can serve as a beacon for their next steps. Fifteen deserving people, many of them alumni, will step onto the stage at Con Hall to receive honorary degrees. As part of the ceremony they will share words of wisdom with the assembled students and offer them a living example of what they can achieve. Our special convocation supplement, pages S1 to S4, profiles these stellar contributors, including former prime minister **Paul Martin**, author **Malcolm Gladwell** and the **Kielburger brothers**, founders of Free The Children.

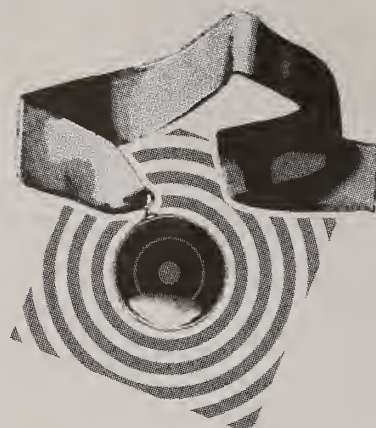
Convocation wouldn't be such a memorable occasion, however, without all the work that takes place behind the scenes. From the marshals to the organist to the parking attendants and grounds crew, dozens of people work tirelessly to ensure that attention is paid to every detail. The goal is to make the day as hassle-free and enjoyable as possible for those who have earned the right to be on the Convocation Hall stage. Writer **Kelly Rankin** touches on one small sample of the work involved in her page 5 story about the degree parchments.

It will be a hectic three weeks for those working behind the scenes but the enchantment they create for the participants makes it all worthwhile. Make sure to wander front campus and drink in the magic.

Regards,



Elaine Smith
Editor
elaine.smith@utoronto.ca
416-978-7016



AWARDS & HONOURS

is the winner of this year's Outstanding Administrative Staff Award, given to an administrative staff member who has earned the respect of her or his administrative colleagues and whose outstanding contributions to administrative service have made a positive impact on teaching, research or general administration; **Maria Gomes**, divisional financial officer in the dean's office, and **Rosinda Raposo**, business officer and office manager of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, are the recipients of the Dean's Distinguished Service Award, presented to a non-academic staff member who has, over the course of her or his years of service, distinguished herself or himself in ways that are beyond the expectations of administrative peers, academic colleagues and students. The Dean's Student Life Award, given to an administrative staff member who has improved the quality of the student experience in the faculty, went to **Eileen Lam**, manager and project officer at the Asian Institute. **George Kretschmann**, engineering technologist, is this year's winner of the Dean's Technical Service Award, presented to a technical staff member who has made an outstanding contribution to technical services and as a result had a direct impact on improving teaching and/or research. The Outstanding Staff Awards were presented April 28 during the annual celebration of outstanding teachers, staff and student leadership.

GOVERNING COUNCIL

Governor Keith Thomas, president and CEO of Vive Nano, announced May 11 that his company, developed by U of T students under the mentorship of Professor **Cynthia Goh**, was recently awarded an American Chemistry Council's Responsible Care Performance Award. The award recognizes those member companies who excelled at helping the council meet industry-wide safety and product stewardship targets. Winners qualify based on exemplary performance and are selected by an external committee of experts. Vive Nano specializes in encapsulation, using its innovative materials to find simple small answers to big issues, including developing new formulations for the crop protection industry.

FACULTY OF LAW

Professor Jutta Brunnee is the winner, with co-author Stephen Toope of the University of British Columbia, of one of the American Society of International Law's three certificates of merit for 2011, given for a pre-eminent contribution to creative scholarship, for their book *Legitimacy and Legality in International Law*. The mission of the society, founded in 1906, is to foster the study of international law and to promote the establishment and maintenance of international relations on the basis of law and justice. The award was presented March 25 during the society's annual meeting.

FACULTY OF MEDICINE

Professor Brian Hodges of psychiatry is this year's recipient of the Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada (AFMC) President's Award for Exemplary National Leadership in Academic Medicine. The award recognizes the recipient's outstanding leadership on national collaborative activities that provide frameworks for curriculum in health education, establish guidelines for faculty on teaching approaches or recruitment and student support, faculty affairs and advocacy for excellence in medical education. Hodges received the award May 9 during the Canadian Conference on Medical Education, hosted this year by U of T's Faculty of Medicine.

FACULTY OF APPLIED SCIENCE & ENGINEERING

Professors Sean Hum of electrical and computer engineering and **Jim Wallace** of mechanical and industrial engineering are the winners of this year's faculty teaching awards. Hum received the Early Career Teaching Award, recognizing an instructor in the early stages of his or her career who has demonstrated exceptional classroom instruction and teaching methods. Wallace received the Faculty Teaching Award, presented to a teacher who demonstrates outstanding classroom instruction, develops and uses innovative teaching methods and goes above and beyond to ensure the best possible learning experience for students. Hum's students credit him with contributing not only to their academic success but to their professional development as well. As chair of mechanical and industrial engineering, Wallace spearheaded the creation of the mechatronics and information engineering programs and developed the teaching mentor program for new faculty. Both were honoured during the annual Celebrating Engineering Success event April 27.

John Macdonald, engineering technologist in civil engineering, is this year's winner of the Agnes Kaneko Citizenship Award, recognizing staff who have served with distinction and made contributions to the faculty's mission above and beyond their job descriptions. The Quality of Student Experience Award, recognizing a staff member who has made significant contributions to the quality of student experience in the faculty, went to two recipients this year: **Lesley Mak**, student success specialist and Track One liaison, and **Annie Simpson**, assistant director of the Institute for Leadership Education in Engineering and co-ordinator of the Engineering Leaders of Tomorrow. **Ryan Mendell**, manager of mechanical and industrial engineering's machine shop, is the recipient of the 2011 Emerging Leader Award, honouring a staff member who leads by example and demonstrates potential to assume a more senior leadership role. The Influential Leader Award, given to a staff member who demonstrates exemplary support for the faculty's endeavours, has made significant and sustained contributions to the faculty and inspires others to realize their potential, was awarded to **Nelly Pietropaolo**, director of student services and external relations for civil engineering. The team of **Bruno Korst**, manager of the hardware teaching labs group in electrical and computer engineering, **Steve Miszuk**, faculty director of facilities and infrastructure planning, and **Joe Wong**, senior applications developer in electrical and computer engineering, was the winner of the Innovation Award, given in recognition of staff who have developed an innovative new method, technology or system, made innovative improvements to an existing technology or system or created an innovative solution to a problem. Winners of the staff awards were honoured April 27 during the annual Celebrating Engineering Success event.

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

Angela Choi, departmental manager of astronomy and astrophysics and the Dunlap Institute,

the Bulletin

PUBLISHER: Laurie Stephens • laurie.stephens@utoronto.ca

EDITOR: Elaine Smith • elaine.smith@utoronto.ca

ASSOCIATE EDITOR: Ailsa Ferguson • ailsa.ferguson@utoronto.ca

DESIGN/PRODUCTION: Caz Zvyatkauskas • Diana McNally

STAFF WRITERS: Anjum Nayyar • Kelly Rankin

ADVERTISING/DISTRIBUTION: Mavic Palanca • mavic.palanca@utoronto.ca

WEBSITE: www.news.utoronto.ca/bulletin.html

The Bulletin is printed on partially recycled paper. Material may be reprinted in whole or in part with appropriate credit to *The Bulletin*. Published once a month by the Strategic Communications Department, 21 King's College Circle, University of Toronto, Toronto, M5S 3J3.

EDITORIAL ENQUIRIES: 416-978-7016 • DISTRIBUTION ENQUIRIES: 416-978-2106
ADVERTISING ENQUIRIES: 416-978-2106 • Display advertising space must be reserved two weeks before publication date. FAX: 416-978-7430.

The top and sidebar art on the front page is composed of photographs taken at Convocation Hall.

COMPILED BY AILSA FERGUSON

Top U of T teachers recognized

BY ELAINE SMITH

A select few faculty members will be inducted into U of T's Teaching Academy this spring.

Five professors and senior lecturers were named winners of the prestigious 2011 President's Teaching Award, as approved by Academic Board April 26, the sixth class of faculty to be accorded this recognition since 2006. The university's highest teaching honour comes with a stipend of \$10,000 for five years and membership in the U of T Teaching Academy.

The newest awardees are:

- **Paul Gries**, a senior lecturer in the Department of Computer Science, Faculty of Arts and Science
- Professor **Mark Kingwell** of the Department of Philosophy, Faculty of Arts and Science
- **June Larkin**, a senior lecturer in the Women and Gender Studies Institute, Faculty of Arts and Science
- Professor **Michael Lettieri** of the Department of Language Studies, University of Toronto Mississauga
- Professor **Susan Lieff** of the Department of Psychiatry, Faculty of Medicine.

As members of the Teaching Academy, they will be called upon periodically to discuss teaching-related matters and to advise the vice-president and provost and the Centre for Teaching Support and Innovation. They may also be asked to deliver an annual public lecture or a convocation address.

"Teaching, along with research, is a key pillar of academic life at the University of Toronto and we have very, very many excellent teachers on our faculty," said Professor **Cheryl Misak**, vice-president and provost. "There is never any shortage of nominees for the Teaching Academy and this year, we have gained five new exceptional members, each with talents and expertise to share with their colleagues."

Gries is a former software developer who joined U of T in 1999. His passion for teaching and his skill are universally admired, earning him numerous teaching awards both within his department and his faculty. He has introduced many innovations, always with an eye to the latest

ideas in pedagogy and in the discipline of computer science, and has also been a major force in curriculum renewal.

Kingwell is a philosopher well known not only to academics but also to the public. "The best teachers of philosophy know that philosophy gets under your skin," said Kingwell, and he has used that potential for addiction to his students' advantage. He is a prolific writer, both for a scholarly audience and the layperson, and he enjoys sharing his knowledge through the media, as well as in the classroom.

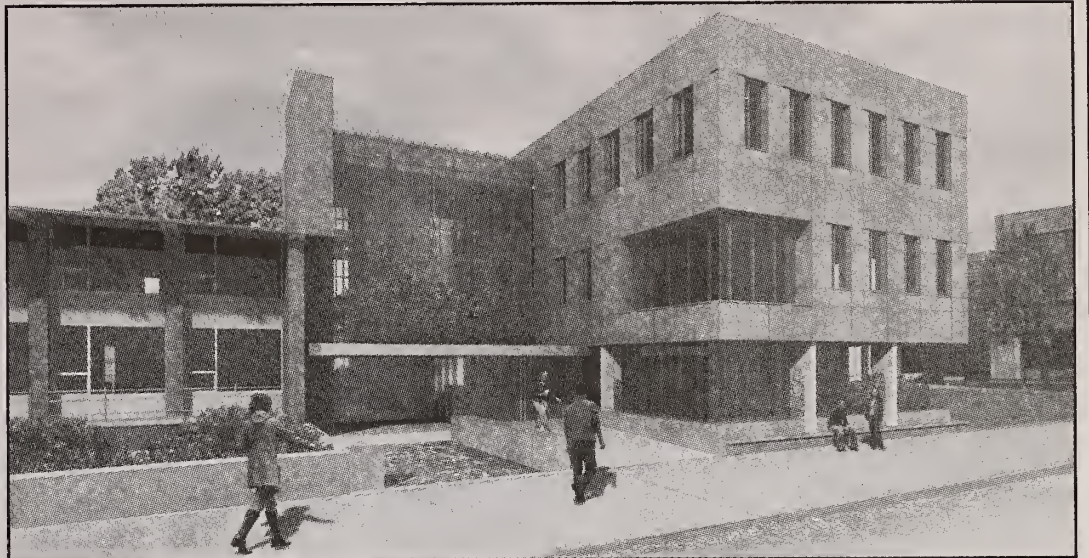
Larkin earned her PhD at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE) and began teaching in U of T's women and gender studies program as a post-doctoral fellow, eventually becoming acting program director. She is widely recognized for her excellence in teaching, educational leadership and community-university connections.

Numerous teaching awards attest to the classroom skills of UTM's Lettieri, chair of language studies. He has achieved a towering international reputation through his exceptional publications in the fields of textual criticism and Italian theatre, as well as his accomplishments in the scholarship of teaching and learning.

Lieff earned her MD degree at U of T and completed her residency in psychiatry in 1985, the year she joined the Faculty of Medicine. Since that time, she has added two master's degrees to her credentials, one in higher education of health professionals from OISE, the other in health leadership. Lieff's current career focuses on advancing and enriching geriatric psychiatry training, academic career development for educators and leadership development for both academics and trained health professionals. Her enthusiasm for teaching has resulted in the creation of the very successful Education Scholars program (ESP) within the Faculty of Medicine.

"The diversity of fields and approaches to teaching that are represented by this year's President's Teaching Award winners remind us all that great teaching knows no boundaries," said Professor **Carol Rolheiser** of OISE, director of the university's Centre for Teaching Support and Innovation.

Student centre renovation, expansion upcoming at Victoria University



BY JENNIFER LITTLE

Victoria University will break ground on an exciting new renovation and expansion project May 28, the Goldring Student Centre.

Named in honour of the lead donors, Victoria College graduates **Blake Goldring** and **Judy Goldring**, the Goldring Student Centre will double the current space of the Wymilwood student union building, built in 1952, to 40,000 square feet. Victoria College students have also contributed generously to this important project.

Wymilwood is a listed historic building and is a rare example of a building designed by notable

architect **Eric Arthur**. Arthur, who taught at the University of Toronto until 1966, was one of the first to teach the modern movement in Canada. He was also known for encouraging the preservation movement of the 1960s and 1970s with his book *Toronto, No Mean City*.

Victoria University has hired renowned Toronto-based architectural firm Moriyama and Teshima which will preserve some of the wonderful heritage features of Wymilwood within the new Goldring Student Centre. Once completed, the building will join a diverse ensemble of Victoria University buildings from Burwash Hall (neo-Gothic), to Old Vic (Romanesque) to the

contemporary Isabel Bader Theatre.

The Goldring Student Centre will create a much-needed hub of student activity on the Vic campus, providing space for meeting rooms, offices for student government and more than 20 student clubs, a renovated café, a two-storey lounge, an assembly space, a newly defined quadrangle and the addition of much-needed lockers for commuter students. It will give students, especially those who don't live on campus, the opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities, join a student club, socialize with friends and engage in all the activities that make for a well-rounded student experience.

AND THE AWARDS JUST KEEP COMING

BY JENNY HALL, KEN MCGUFFIN AND TAKARA SMALL

The U of T community is no stranger to prestigious awards and the past month has seen a number of them come its way.

University Professor **Keren Rice** is the winner of one of five 2011 Killam Prizes. The award, one of Canada's most prestigious, recognizes a researcher for distinguished scholarly career achievement. It is administered by the Canada Council for the Arts and comes with a \$100,000 prize.

Rice, a professor of linguistics, an expert and an activist, has focused on documenting and preserving the Dene (Slavey) language. She has produced a dictionary and a grammar of Slavey and helped to standardize its written system. She has worked to help develop curricula and language preservation and training programs for native teachers. Rice is also founding director of U of T's undergraduate aboriginal studies program and of the Centre for Aboriginal Initiatives. Her work has added to the richness of Canada's aboriginal heritage.

Two faculty members were among 18 scholars recently named foreign fellows of

the U.S. National Academy of Sciences. University Professor **Richard Bond** of the Canadian Institute for Theoretical Astrophysics and University Professor Emeritus **Richard Lee** of anthropology were recognized for their excellence in original scientific research.

Bond is an astrophysicist interested in the physics of the very early universe, the origin and evolution of cosmic structure, cosmic radiation backgrounds, dark matter and dark energy and particle and gravitational theory. His work has been instrumental in helping us understand the structure and evolution of the universe.

Lee is an internationally celebrated anthropologist known for his work studying hunter-gatherer societies, particularly the !Kung San of Botswana, whom he lived among for various periods over several decades. His research interests also include societies in Tanzania, Namibia, Alaska, Australia, British Columbia, the Yukon and Labrador, as well as ecological and medical anthropology and HIV/AIDS.

Professor **Roger Martin**, dean of the Rotman School of

Management, was honoured recently with a second place prize in the 2010 McKinsey Awards for an article that appeared in the *Harvard Business Review*. The annual awards, judged by an independent panel of business and academic leaders, commend outstanding articles published each year in the *Review*.

In the piece, entitled *The Age of Customer Capitalism*, he argued that the current era of shareholder value capitalism should be abandoned and that we should move to customer-driven capitalism.

Last, but not least, Professor **Cristina Amon**, dean of the Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering, was awarded the prestigious YWCA Toronto Woman of Distinction Award May 18. The annual award honours recipients who work to improve the lives of girls and women in their community.

Amon was acknowledged in the science and engineering category. As the first female dean of the Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering at the University of Toronto, she has worked to close the gender gap among faculty and students.

U OF T WILL BESTOW 15 HONORARY DEGREES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
to Canada **Koh Yong Guan**,
also a U of T alumnus (June 6
at 2 p.m.).

David M. Dunlap (BASC
1961) and **J. Moffat Dunlap**
(June 10 at 10 a.m.), whose
significant endowed gifts
to establish the Dunlap
Institute of Astronomy and
Astrophysics built on a legacy
that began with their family's
establishment of the Dunlap
Observatory in 1935.

Leading philanthropists
and volunteers **Sonia Labatt**
and **Arthur Labatt** (June 13
at 2:30 p.m.). Sonia Labatt,
PhD, is a U of T alumna and
adjunct professor at the Centre
for Environment; Arthur
Labatt, co-founder of Trimark

Financial, was named an offi-
cer of the Order of Canada in
1996.

Anne Sado, president of
George Brown College (June
15 at 10 a.m.). Sado gradu-
ated from the University of
Toronto in engineering in
1977 and from the Rotman
School of Management in
1981.

"The University of Toronto
students, faculty, staff and
alumni are committed to
building stronger communi-
ties in Canada and through-
out the world," said Naylor.
"These honorary degrees
reflect and celebrate that
commitment."

For more information see
the insert in today's *Bulletin*.

2011 Thelma Cardwell Research Day



KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Charles Christiansen
Executive Director
American Occupational Therapy Foundation

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Occupational Science
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Honorary Degrees – Call for Nominations

The Committee for Honorary Degrees welcomes nominations for honorary degrees to be awarded at convocations in 2012 and 2013. It will begin meeting in September to consider nominations.

The awarding of an honorary degree is an important statement of recognition and respect from the University to the broader community. The Committee is seeking individuals who have attained a standard of excellence in a particular field of endeavour or who are distinguished in some notable manner. Some of the factors considered by the Committee are whether there has been a particular accomplishment of note (for example, an important piece of scholarly work); connection or service to the University; service to the wider community; service to or influence on the arts; service to the nation; cross-cultural influence; and recognition by others of high achievement.

Nomination forms are available on the website of the Governing Council at <http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/bac/hd.htm>. Although nominations are welcome at any time, the Committee requests that they be received no later than August 15, 2011 to allow for their consideration by the Committee in September.

Please send nominations to:

Secretary, Committee for Honorary Degrees
Office of the Governing Council
Simcoe Hall, Room 106
27 King's College Circle
Toronto, ON M5S 1A1
Fax: 416-978-8182

If you have any questions, or would like further information about the selection process, please contact the Committee Secretary, Mr. Henry Mulhall, at 416-978-8428 or henry.mulhall@utoronto.ca. Nominations may also be submitted electronically to this email address.



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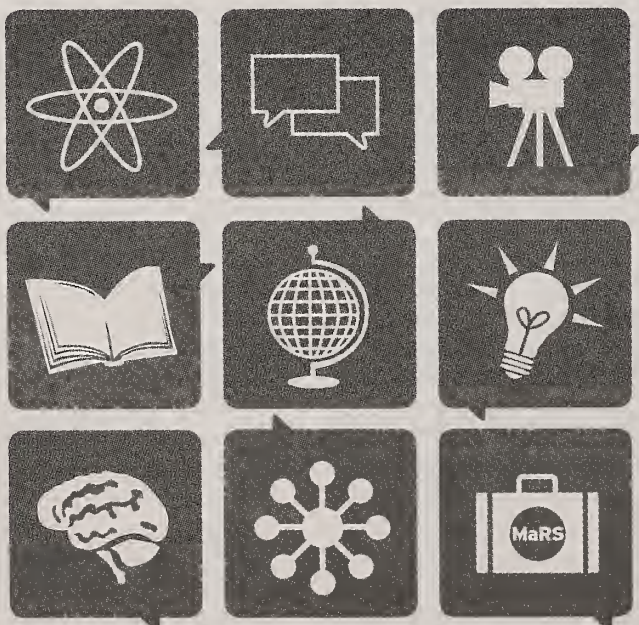
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Parchment, PAST AND PRESENT

BY KELLY RANKIN

As the University of Toronto community prepares for convocation ceremonies later this month, it brings to mind convocations past.

The Bulletin's photo archive of convocation offered hundreds of photos documenting this bi-annual rite of passage, some dating as far back as the early 20th century. As expected, there were many shots of students and proud family members, dignitaries and scenes from various ceremonies. However, it was the images depicting the university diploma — that emblem of hard work and success — that made our staff wonder how these documents are produced today.

While examining some of the wonderful shots from the past, **Silvia Rosatone**, director of the office of convocation, explained today's diploma production process.

Diploma production for the spring ceremony begins in March. This year the office of convocation will distribute more than 12,000 diplomas, approximately 600 to 800 per ceremony.

The process begins with names. Each faculty and college provides the office of convocation with a list of the names of its graduating students and each of these names is printed on an individual parchment.



Three proofreaders checking diplomas for accuracy, June 12, 1970.

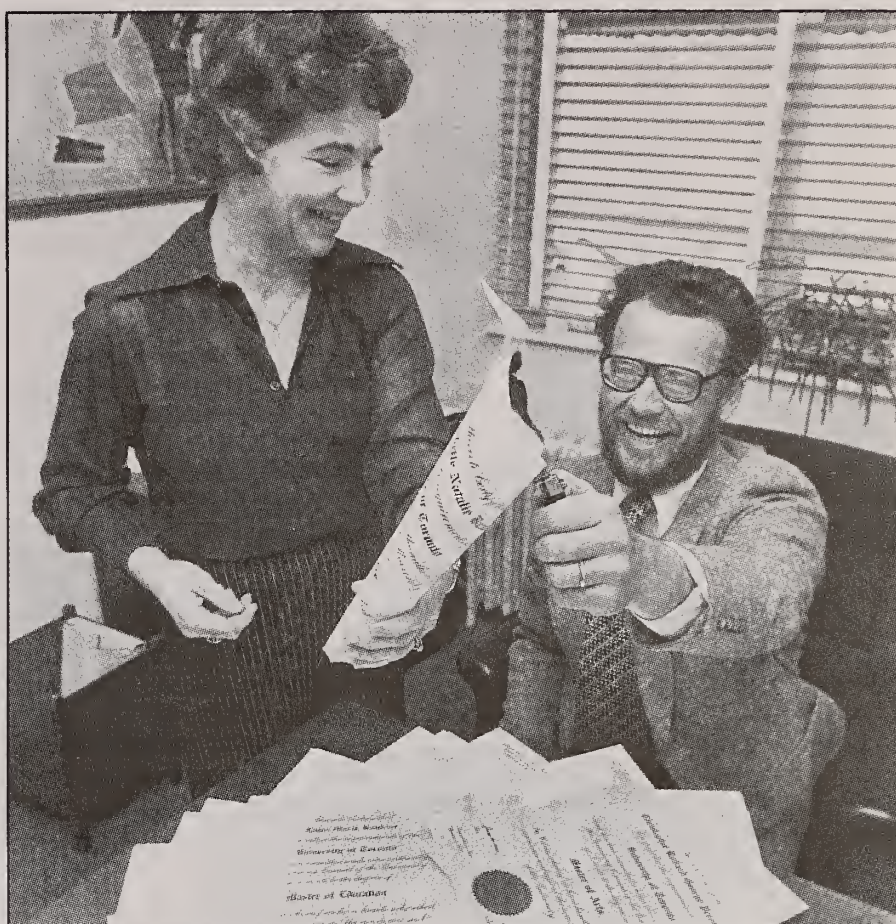
Every diploma is checked at least three times by a team of proofreaders (see photo above) to ensure that all information corresponds exactly to the data provided by the faculty, that the recipient's name and degree details are recorded correctly and that there are no blemishes on the paper.

"We're looking for it to be flawless," said Rosatone.

Once a proofreader packages a diploma it is placed alphabetically in a box labeled with the ceremony name, date and time.



Sydney Blackwood, chemical engineering graduand, and Carman Parris hold their rolled-up diplomas, packaged in tubes, 1950.



Ilene Haller and Richard Swenson of student records burning diplomas, April 1978.

There was a time when the diploma was rolled up and placed in a tube, as illustrated below, left. Today, graduates receive an envelope. Inside it is their diploma protected by an acid-free wrapper, a letter of congratulations from the president and a cardboard insert that protects the contents of the envelope from being bent or folded.

This season, the convocation office will be testing a new package, said Rosatone. A limited group of students will receive their diplomas in a new archival envelope, eliminating the need for the protective wrapper. Staff will review the success of this pilot project once convocation ends.

Diplomas are guarded as carefully as gold reserves at Fort Knox.

"For security reasons, we think of [the diplomas] as our currency," said Rosatone.

The office of convocation orders enough paper to produce the requisite number of diplomas — plus some extra in case of error or damage — for the season's graduating class. A strict inventory of the paper is kept and reconciled once convocation has concluded.

Any diploma with a printing error or a flaw in the paper is destroyed, as are diplomas unclaimed after one year.

Rosatone speculates that the student records staff in the photo above are burning a diploma to dramatize the rigorous measures taken to ensure that all distributed U of T diplomas are perfect and authentic.

"Now we shred them, but they may have incinerated them back then," Rosatone said.

During convocation ceremonies, students are called to the stage and presented to the chancellor and other dignitaries, then exit the hall where they are greeted by a convocation staff member and presented with their diplomas, as shown below.

The parchment's journey is finally over, and its owner's life journey has just begun.



A graduate receives his diploma from a member of the convocation staff, June 12, 1970.

NEWLY MINTED GRADUATES

U OF T'S CLASS OF 2011
IS PREPARING TO MAKE
ITS IMPACT FELT

CAZ ZVATKAUSKAS



Erica Young, a law graduand, says volunteering helped give her career direction.

LAW CAREER, COMMUNITY SERVICE INTERTWINE

BY KELLY RANKIN

If typical means outstanding, then Erica Young is a typical U of T graduand.

Young is an intelligent, articulate and lively young woman whose love for the law is infectious. This spring she will realize a lifelong ambition when she receives her juris doctor (JD).

"Growing up with a reverence for law and the idea of being able to work towards that, to become someone who is respected and relied upon for her advice and expertise, that has always attracted me," she said.

When Young applied to U of T's Faculty of Law she knew admission would be competitive. Instead of being intimidated, Young made it her challenge to do well as an undergraduate.

"Knowing that I would be in a program that was competitive to get into, I knew I would be among other people who valued the same things I valued, which are excellence and hard work," said Young.

Excellence and hard work are qualities she comes by honestly.

Forty years ago, Young's parents came to Canada from China and opened their own fish and chip restaurant. As the first generation from her family to attend university, Young and her two older sisters watched their parents work tirelessly to provide them with opportunities they themselves never had. "They are incredibly supportive parents," she said.

Throughout her schooling, Young took part in

extracurricular activities, such as co-chairing the faculty's Women in Law group, and participated in volunteer activities with Pro Bono Students of Canada and the Civil Litigation Project with Pro Bono Law Ontario.

Young said volunteering is a social norm in law school and she is "always mindful of the professional obligation to give back to the community."

During her first year, she gave legal education workshops at St. Stephen's Community House in Kensington Market. She would explain legislation — for example, the Safe Streets Act — to an underserved community.

Providing people with access to justice and helping them to understand and utilize the system are important to Young. "It empowers people to take control of their own legal matters," she said.

Young also credits her volunteer experience with giving her direction for her career. She writes the bar exam in June and begins her articling term in August at top ranked Canadian firm McCarthy Tétrault. Although Young is thinking about specializing in civil litigation, she said she wants to keep an open mind.

"For the immediate future I want to concentrate on learning to be a lawyer, to be a good litigator," she said.

When asked if she had advice for anyone considering applying to law school, Young replied, "If you're up for the challenge, it's absolutely rewarding. It was the most intellectually challenging thing I've done, but also the most satisfying."



COURTESY OF RITU BHASIN

EMBA student Ritu Bhasin has established her own consulting firm.

DIVERSITY DRAWS EMBA STUDENT

BY ANJUM NAYYAR

Executive MBA graduand Ritu Bhasin made a complete career change while enrolled in the Rotman School of Management, morphing from lawyer to diversity specialist, all while working as a full-time lawyer on Bay Street.

"I decided to do my executive MBA so that I could further develop my leadership and management skills," said Bhasin. "I also wanted to take my business acumen to the next level and the support that I received was excellent. You have a full-time person running the program, a full-time person dedicated to providing you with career services support. The professors were always available. It was just excellent in providing the level of support that we would need to succeed."

While at Rotman, she took full advantage of the program and engaged in more than just academic pursuits. She sat on the Rotman external review committee and the values initiative working group and was also a course instructor on the importance of diversity in non-profit governance.

Today, Bhasin has her own diversity consulting firm, bhasin consulting inc., that provides organizations with strategies on people management and organizational leadership, with an emphasis on diversity and the advancement of women. She's worked with professional services firms, academic institutions, professional associations and not-for-profits. Bhasin also acts as a career and leadership coach and has now coached hundreds of individuals, focusing on empowering them to leverage their strengths and interests in their development.

"I was inspired to start this firm because of the EMBA program," she said. "By being in the program it really helped me to develop my skills and spread my wings."

She also found a home at Rotman, teaching there in the area of diversity and governance.

"I care about diversity because it speaks to what is at the core of humanity and our interconnectedness, despite our differences."

In addition to earning a degree this spring, Bhasin was the recipient of a 2011 Gordon Cressy Student Leadership Award for her leadership work at Rotman. The awards were established in 1994 by the University of Toronto Alumni Association and the Division of University Advancement to recognize students who have made outstanding extracurricular contributions to their college, faculty or school or to the university as a whole.

Her talent doesn't end there. She enjoyed her yoga classes so much that in her free time she decided to become a yoga instructor.

"I don't tell people normally that I'm a yoga instructor, but I'm a huge yoga fan," said Bhasin. "It's part of my culture. I went to India and did my training at an ashram. But I don't teach. I just wanted to deepen my practice and better understand the yogic way of life."

Upon graduation Bhasin will be continuing to grow her own consulting business. For more information on Bhasin visit: www.bhasinconsulting.com.

VICTORIA COLLEGE IS FAMILY TRADITION

BY ANJUM NAYYAR

As **Malcolm Cecil-Cockwell**, a 2011 forestry graduand, gets ready to walk that important walk across the Convocation Hall stage to receive his degree, he's reminded of the fact that his mother **Wendy Cecil**, chancellor of Victoria University, walked across that same stage 40 years ago.

"It's kind of neat that she was the first to graduate from a university in her family and it's nice to continue that down the line myself and graduate from the same university," said Cecil-Cockwell.

Cecil, one of the pioneering women to serve on boards of directors in Canada, is Victoria's 13th chancellor and the first woman in the university's history to hold the office. Elected for a three-year term, the chancellor is the ceremonial head of the institution, presiding at convocations and conferring degrees, as well as serving as Victoria's chief ambassador.

Cecil formerly served as chair of Governing Council and has been an active volunteer at U of T for 27 years. Cecil-Cockwell has fond memories of his mother's career at U of T because he attended a wide variety of U of T events with her as he was growing up. U of T was an everyday part of his family life.

Cecil said she first came to Vic in 1967 as a nervous 18-year-old and the college became a home away from home during her undergraduate years.

"It is wonderful to still be a part of the campus all these years later. It gives you a rich sense of timelessness to be among the same buildings where you studied when you were an undergraduate. Now I'm soon to be 63 and both my son and I will be a part of the June convocation. It truly feels like a such a rare privilege and a blessing."

Cecil is delighted and proud that her son will follow her footsteps across the Convocation Hall stage as he begins his own life as a U of T and Victoria College alumnus.

"I graduated 40 years ago this June and I wasn't thinking about a child of mine ever doing that," said Cecil. "At the time it was a miracle that I was graduating because no one in my family on either side had ever been to university, so the fact that I now have a son graduating from university, and also the college I graduated from, is really a wonderful feeling. I'm very, very proud of him."

Cecil-Cockwell transferred to U of T after spending a year working. He said he always knew U of T was the best choice for him and Victoria College was the only place he wanted to be. He chose forestry as his major because he worked in forestry sector analysis and economic research and got really interested in the financial side of forestry.

"It's a nice merger of the side of me that really likes conservation work and the part of me that really likes business. Then there's a part of me that really just likes being in the bush. The Faculty of Forestry has a really good program and does a great job matching up students with professors in field work."

Cecil-Cockwell is pursuing graduate studies in Forestry at U of T.



COURTESY OF WENDY CECIL

Malcolm Cecil-Cockwell (right) graduates from U of T 40 years after his mother, Victoria University chancellor Wendy Cecil.



KELLY RANKIN

Simon Kuany dreams of returning home to help the Republic of South Sudan as it gains its independence.

'LOST BOY' MAINTAINED PASSION FOR HOMELAND

BY KELLY RANKIN

For **Simon Kuany**, a graduand of the Lassonde Mineral Engineering Program, life's challenges are all a matter of perspective.

Kuany was part of the exodus from South Sudan in the 1980s, one of approximately 20,000 boys ranging in age from five to 13 who were forced to flee their villages to escape Sudan's civil war. Collectively, they are known as Sudan's Lost Boys.

He said he understands why someone from the west would think the boys were lost, but for Kuany it was simply part of growing up in a war zone. "Everything was dangerous. It was a way life," he said.

"From our perspective we weren't lost, we were part of a struggle," Kuany added. "We were thinking of the next 10, 20 years and what will happen after this."

Kuany said he thinks he was around five or six years old when he left his village, Panyagoor in South Sudan, in search of safety. He's also unsure of how long the journey took.

"I didn't have an idea of time, I didn't know how long a week or a month was," he said.

Eventually, Kuany and the other boys arrived at a refugee camp operated by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Kakuma, Kenya, in 1992. Here he received a primary school education and was able to attend a Kenyan secondary school thanks to sponsorship provided by a group of Jesuits.

In 2005, with the help of the World University Services of Canada (WUSC), he came to Toronto to attend university.

"Getting a degree is something I had been looking

forward to for a long time," he said. "Everyone in South Sudan is hungry for learning and I was no exception."

Talking with Kuany, it becomes apparent how much he belies the nickname "Lost Boys." Kuany is motivated, clear about his own purpose and focused on the future of South Sudan.

In January, South Sudan voted to secede from the north and form its own country. On July 9 the Republic of South Sudan will become the world's newest internationally recognized country and Kuany wants to play a significant role in its development.

"Our leader, [the late John Garang, leader of Sudan People's Liberation Army] called us the 'seeds for the country,'" he said. "No matter how many problems we had, he knew one day we would be very helpful, and today, many are starting to return."

Kuany plans to stay in Canada for a few more years to gain adequate experience before returning home. He wants to put his skills to work and be able to share what he has learned and tutor others.

"It's very important to get the engineering degree [at U of T]. It's for my country, not only for me," said Kuany. "I will make sure I make use of it and help my people back home."

Kuany believes South Sudan can learn a lot from Canada's successes.

"South Sudan is starting from scratch, there is no infrastructure, no roads, no government institutions, no schools," he said. "It's not nation rebuilding, it's nation creation."

"Everything I do there will be from what I learned here," said Kuany. "Canada is going to be a big part of whatever success we have."

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SIMON KUANY

PhD student uses Facebook to identify thousands of fish

BY ANDREW WESTOLL

Devin Bloom is not your typical Facebook user. The PhD candidate in evolutionary biology at U of T Scarborough (UTSC) only posts sporadically to the site and he wouldn't even have a personal Facebook page if his little sister hadn't secretly set one up for him. But recently, while on a scientific expedition to the remote jungles of Guyana, Bloom helped illuminate a powerful new use for the social networking tool. As a result, technology-averse biologists around the world may soon be flocking to the site.

In January and February, Bloom helped conduct the first ichthyological survey on Guyana's Cuyuni River. The trip was funded through the Biological Diversity of the Guiana Shield program at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History and was led by Professor Brian Sidlauskas at Oregon State University (OSU). The goal was to find out which species of fish live

in the Cuyuni and get a good estimate of their abundance.

The Cuyuni is bisected by the Guyana-Venezuela border and extends 210 kilometres into the thick jungles of western Guyana. The region is under intense ecological pressure from the artisanal gold mining operations that pepper the Guyanese hinterland. This mining has terrible impacts on the surrounding environment. Chief among these are the increase in sedimentation in the rivers and the release of elemental mercury directly into the food chain.

"That's why it's important we get there now, to find out what's there," said Bloom. "Because in 30 years, who knows what the Cuyuni will look like?"

For two weeks, Bloom, Sidlauskas and the rest of the team spent day and night catching as many fish as they could with various nets. They slept in makeshift jungle camps. In fourteen days, the team collected more than 5,000 fish specimens. Then they realized they had a big problem.

"In order to get the fish out of the country," Bloom said, "we needed an accurate count of each species." The team's research permit required them to report this information to the Guyanese government. "We couldn't leave the country until we turned over our data to the authorities."

But how could a handful of people possibly identify 5,000 fish in just a few days? "A lot of people think fish experts know hundreds and hundreds of species," said Bloom. "But they really don't. We're all specialists on one particular group or another."

That's when Bloom made a great suggestion. "Let's just put them up on Facebook and see if our friends can help." Sidlauskas loved the idea, so he uploaded the photos that a team member had meticulously taken of each species. "The network of fish experts is pretty small," Bloom said, "and fish people can be real fanatics. Once a fish pops up on Facebook, they get very excited and start arguing. So next thing we knew, we had a really interesting intellectual debate going on among various world experts on fish, sort of like a real-time peer review that reached across continents

and around the world." In less than 24 hours, their network of friends had identified almost every specimen.

The results of the biodiversity survey on the Cuyuni River were somewhat discouraging. Bloom said 5,000 fish species are not many; he can remember similar trips on different Guyanese rivers where the team pulled in up to 20,000 specimens.

But the team's use of Facebook to crowdsource accurate scientific data has had an unexpected consequence: it's led Bloom to change his mind about the value of online tools.

Mobile apps course a hit with grad students

BY ANJUM NAYYAR

The **smartphone** revolution convinced Professor **Jonathan Rose** of electrical and computer engineering that he absolutely had to bring a course on mobile applications (apps) to U of T. It was such a popular idea, 50 graduate students enrolled in the course. Uniquely, graduate students from all disciplines at the University of Toronto were eligible to take part.

The purpose of the course was to build a collaborative, creative environment that fostered apps in many new fields. Creative Applications for Mobile Devices was primarily a project-based course in which the goal was to produce a working app. Projects were done in groups of two or three; students with computer programming skills were matched with one student from a non-programming background to do a project in the

latter student's discipline. The goal of each new app was to enhance some aspect of non-programmer's discipline.

"Smartphones are the new paper, a blank slate with many creative possibilities, but you need some skills to create apps," said Rose. Students were given lectures and exercises to learn the environment and were given guidance towards the completion of a major project.

There were 22 different projects, including a game that helps ward off dementia, a wound-care recording app for nurses, an app that makes a map of the noise level in a person's life and a low-cost method for detecting sleep apnea.

Nirtal Shah is a physiotherapist at the David MacIntosh Sports Medicine Clinic at U of T and a graduate student in public health. Together with engineers **Lyndon Carvalho** and **Ivan So**, he created a mobile

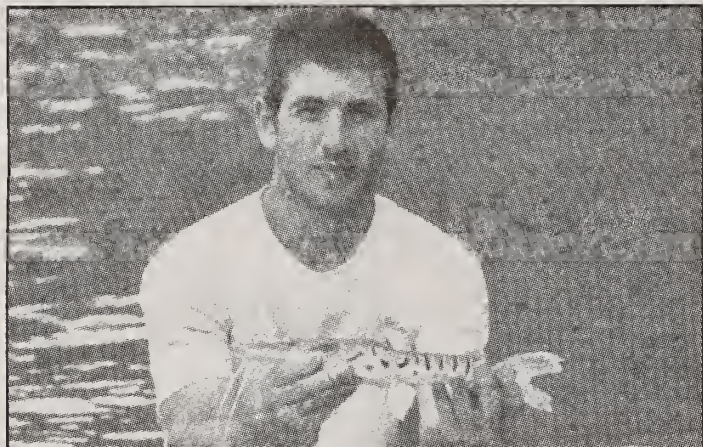
app for physiotherapists, called iAnkle, that uses the smartphone to assess the stability of an ankle after injury. It will allow people to assess their rehabilitation progress at home rather than requiring more frequent physiotherapist visits.

Shoptimus Prime was the brainchild of engineering students **Michael Kipper** and **Bryce Leung**.

"It's hard to find out what sales are on in grocery stores because some don't have websites," Kipper said. "So if users were able to enter the grocery prices and use that to compute the lowest price of goods, we end up with a useful database of information in the end."

Both Kipper and Shah's teams are hoping to commercialize the products after testing and Rose, excited about the students' efforts and enthusiasm, plans to offer the course again in January 2012.

COURTESY OF UTSC



Devin Bloom, a UTSC PhD candidate in evolutionary biology, recently surveyed the fish species in Guyana's Cuyuni River.



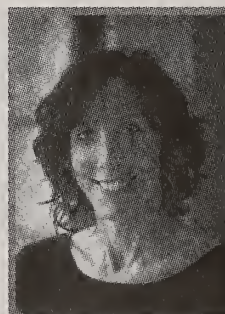
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LETTERS
TO THE
EDITOR

THANKS FOR A JOB WELL DONE

I wish to let you know how much I have enjoyed *the Bulletin* and am quite saddened by the news that it may no longer be available in print.

Reading *the Bulletin* has been more like a leisurely and pleasurable activity — being happy to discover what might show up on the pages. While the online format may likely be more cost-effective and energy efficient, it does not offer that sense of pleasurable discovery at a leisurely pace. I will miss enjoying the process of reading and will inevitably focus more on getting through one item and quickly clicking on the next one.

Nevertheless, I would like to convey my appreciation to *the Bulletin* team for producing such a fine publication.

CHRIS NG
WOODSWORTH COLLEGE

VISUAL BLIGHT ADJACENT TO CAMPUS
NEEDS TO BE ADDRESSED

Last August *the Bulletin* published a letter by me (Privacy and superzealousness, Aug. 24). The letter addressed two topics. In the first topic I expressed my concern about the superzealousness of the privacy office on the campus to the point where internal faculty directories became largely dysfunctional because (at least this is true of the law faculty) most faculty members cannot be bothered to volunteer their home phone numbers even though that information is only meant for the use of other faculty members.

The second half of my letter dealt with what I politely described as “visual pollution” in the streets immediately adjacent to the campus. My particular concern was over the overwhelming number of posters of every size and description, invariably one on top of another, that festoon the utility poles, parking meters, mailboxes and anything else that catches the fancy of the poster-mongers. I had hoped for a least a modest amount of reaction to my letter. Regretfully there wasn’t even a peep, so it’s time to address the issue again and this time more forcefully.

The university authorities take considerable — and to a large extent successful — trouble to keep the main campus free of unauthorized posters and free of posters of every description on fixtures not designed for them. Why should that concern not extend to the areas immediately adjacent to the campus: Queen’s Park to the east, St. George Street to the west, Hoskin Avenue to the north and College Street to the south? I suppose the answer is that this is the responsibility of the City of Toronto but it is entirely inadequate for the following reasons. So far as I know the university has brought no pressure to bear on the city authorities to purge the public streets of the poster scourge. Second, the visual mayhem also regularly spills over onto the campus itself. Last week, for example, dozens of posters appeared on Tower Road (almost invariably multiple copies on the same fixture) advertising crash bartending courses for students so they could earn easy money this summer! Third, visual degradation in the areas adjacent to the campus affects our perception — and the public’s — of the main campus itself.

I fear, however, that the true answer to my question is widespread indifference in the university community to esthetic values. I find the indifference puzzling. How can we hope to cultivate informed and creative minds among our students if they lack sensitivity to their physical environments? In western Europe, the two have long been regarded as inseparable. University authorities in Oxford and Cambridge (to use two random examples) are quick to oppose any proposal to add new buildings or change existing ones that will disturb the existing visual harmony. There is a total embargo on posters anywhere except on official notice boards, and those notice boards are carefully policed to prevent the visual mayhem so prevalent on the U of T campus. The streets themselves are kept clean of posters. Both cities attract huge number of tourists every year precisely because the visitors appreciate the architectural and visual delights offered by these university towns.

U of T has an architecture faculty. One hears very little about its activities. Surely faculty voices should be heard? Surely they should also be in the forefront in the fight against visual ugliness and visual chaos and promote far greater sensitivity to the physical environment than exists at the present time?

JACOB ZIEGEL
FACULTY OF LAW

HE SAID SHE SAID

Going cuckoo:
Time marches on

BY CAZ ZYVATKAUSKAS

When our family achieved a state of prosperity that allowed for luxury items, my father decided to buy an object evocative of old-world charm and craftsmanship — a symbol of refinement. The actual purchase of this item was so significant and solemn an occasion that children were prohibited.

One day it just arrived — our brand new hand-carved cuckoo clock.

There was no doubt it was a fine thing — in the general shape of an alpine cottage with splendid wooden leaves adorning its perimeter. At the top of this masterpiece, above the face of the clock, was a veranda and set of doors supporting a man and a woman in traditional native European costume. Hanging straight down from this ornate creation were two heavy cast metal pine cones suspended by chains. To emphasize each detail an artist had painted it in colours that stirred the heart and mind to imagine a forest bright with the season of spring. It was a work of art as vivid and joyous as the painted frieze of the Parthenon once was.

Once it had been placed in the dead centre of the living room wall we were invited to sit at a respectful distance to wonder at it. My father set the time by hands on the clock face and then wound the device by pulling on the pine cones. It sprung into life ticking and tocking like no other clock we had known. The most amazing feature, though, was yet to reveal itself. Upon the hour a gong sounded, the small double doors opened and a yellow bird popped out announcing “cuckoo.” It repeated this chime every hour.

After the show was over my father retired to his Naugahyde La-Z-Boy chair situated directly across from the clock. In the following days he smiled in amazement each time the hour was announced by the clever little bird who had also figured out how to chime every half-hour and quarter hour.

It seemed after a week that the chiming never ended and the ticking never stopped. Time marched relentlessly onward — even when everything else was quiet. The air was punctuated with gongs and resounding echoes. In between these noises, in the few sullen silences, one could sense a resentment building. Ominously, each tick rang hollow. Each cuckoo

was shrill. It was an Edgar Allen Poe story in the making.

And then without ceremony the clock was gone. There is no recollection of when it came down or how it suffered its final hour. We children all imagined that we had learned never to be lulled by the cuckoo’s call.

However, the hardest learned lessons are not always the loudest. Decades later when a well-wisher brought a present back from a trip to Europe I was presented with a small, charming, plastic battery-operated cuckoo clock and was delighted.

What harm could it do? It was so reduced in size and complexity that it lacked a proper cuckoo bird. The only moveable part on it was a petite lady in an painted skirt and apron who swung rhythmically from two plastic threads. It gave off such a small benign tick that in the business of the day, the dinner-time rush and above the din of sports games and other noises it couldn’t be heard.

Then one afternoon the house fell silent and sitting alone whilst having a cup of tea I heard it — ticking and tocking — each note resounding off the plaster walls.

The relentless presence of this noise amplified well beyond the chest cavity of the tiny timepiece. Suddenly I remembered my father’s predicament.

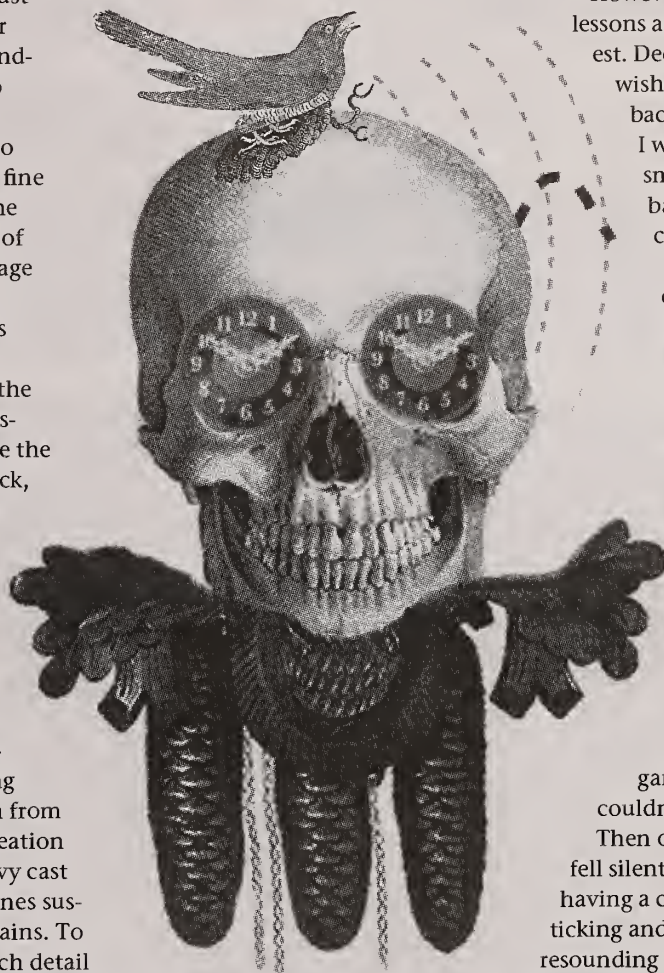
Obsessed by the pounding I refused to have it decommissioned, preferring to sit and wait — to endure. Why no one else noticed it I couldn’t say, but one day the battery died. That was years ago.

After a good spring cleaning this past March the little clock was released from a veil of cobwebs and its long silent battery replaced. Gone in an instant were all the fond memories of these clocks.

It is unlikely today’s young will experience time as we once measured it — with the tintinnabulation of repeated mechanical hammerings. The clever changeable digital devices of today offer such a selection of distracting noises that one is neither forced to endure or notice the passage of time as marked by a singular noise.

We can now defy the relentless advance of time by moving deftly between past and present with an array of songs and sound mixes. Perhaps that more accurately reflects the bendable nature of time but it doesn’t provide the intense, certain, solitary, and sometimes unerving experience of being aroused by the call of the cuckoo.

Caz Zyvatskas is a U of T history student who doubles as designer of the Bulletin. She shares this space with Paul Fraumeni.



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Feeling anxious, stressed or depressed? Relationship or self-esteem concerns? Want someone to talk with, to help sort things out? Dr. Ellen Greenberg, Psychologist, Bloor & Avenue Road or Eglinton West Subway, 416-944-3799. Covered by extended health.

Dr. Neil Pilkington (Psychologist). Assessment and individual, couples and group cognitive-behaviour therapy for: anxiety/phobias, depression/low self-esteem, stress and anger management, couples issues and sexual identity/orientation concerns. Staff/faculty healthcare benefits provide full coverage. Morning, afternoon and evening appointments. Downtown/TTC. 416-977-5666. Email dr.neil.pilkington@rogers.com

Psychotherapy for personal and relationship issues. Individual, group and couple therapy. U of T extended health plan provides coverage. For a consultation call Dr. Heather A. White, Psychologist, 416-535-9432, 140 Albany Avenue (Bathurst/Bloor). drhwhite@rogers.com

Evelyn Sommers, PhD, Psychologist, provides psychotherapy and counselling for individuals and couples from age 17. Covered under U of T benefits. Yonge/Bloor. Visit www.ekslibris.ca; call 416-413-1038.

Individual psychotherapy for adults. Evening hours available. Extended benefits coverage for U of T staff. Dr. Paula Gardner, Registered Psychologist, 114 Maitland St. (Wellesley and Jarvis). 416-570-2957.

Psychoanalysis & psychoanalytic psychotherapy for adolescents, adults, couples. U of T extended health benefits provide coverage. Dr. Klaus Wiedermann, Registered Psychologist, 1033 Bay St., ste. 204, tel: 416-962-6671.

Dr. Cindy Wahler, Registered Psychologist. Yonge/St. Clair area. Individual and couple psychotherapy. Depression, relationship difficulties, women's issues, health issues, self-esteem. U of T extended healthcare plan covers psychological services. 416-961-0899. cwahler@sympatico.ca

Sam Minsky, PhD (Registered Psychologist). Individual and couple psychotherapy and counselling covered under U of T extended health plan. Close to downtown campus. 647-209-9516. sam.minsky@sympatico.ca

Dr. Carol Musselman, Registered Psychologist. If you are experiencing anxiety, depression, relationship problems, or other emotional difficulties, psychotherapy can help you resolve problems and enjoy life more fully. Individuals and couples. Culturally sensitive, feminist, queer-positive. May be covered by insurance. Please contact me at 416-568-1100, carol.musselman@bell.net, or visit www.carolmusselman.com

Miscellany

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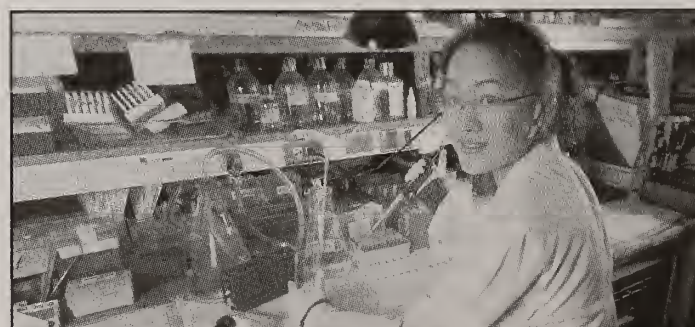
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LECTURES

Strengthening Care for the Injured Globally.

Friday, June 3

Charles Mock, World Health Organization; annual visiting professor in trauma lecture. Paul Marshall Auditorium, St. Michael's Hospital. 7:30 p.m.

SEMINARS

Blood Myeloid Dendritic Cells and Pathogen Dissemination in Humans With Chronic Periodontitis, Acute Coronary Syndrome.

Monday, June 13

Prof. Christopher Cutler, Stony Brook University, New York. 237 Fitzgerald Building. 11:30 a.m. *Dentistry*

MUSIC

Carillon Recital.

Sunday, May 29

Roy Lee and students. Soldiers' Tower. 1 p.m.

EXHIBITIONS

THOMAS FISHER RARE BOOK LIBRARY

'Great and Manifold': A Celebration of the Bible in English.

To June 3

Commemorating the 400th anniversary of the first printing of the King James Bible, this exhibition offers a selection of rare manuscripts and books that trace the evolution of the English Bible from the Middle Ages to current times; curated by Pearce Carefoote. Hours: Monday to Wednesday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thursday 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

U OF T ART CENTRE

Suzy Lake: Political Poetics.

To June 25

Suzy Lake's profound significance is explored; curated by Matt Brower and guest curator Carla Garnet. One of the primary exhibitions in the Scotiabank CONTACT Photography Festival. Laidlaw Wing, University College. Hours: Tuesday to Friday, noon to 5 p.m. Saturday, noon to 4 p.m.

COACH HOUSE

Illuminated Manuscripts.

To June 25

To commemorate and celebrate the centenary of Marshall McLuhan's birth, Canadian artist Robert Bean was commissioned to create a site-specific exhibition in McLuhan's former seminar room; a show about writing, archives and photography. Part of Scotiabank CONTACT 2011. Coach House, 39A Queen's Park Cres. E. Hours: Tuesday to Friday, noon to 5 p.m., Saturday, noon to 4 p.m.

MISCELLANY

Memorial Room Opening: Spring Reunion.

May 27, 28 and 29

The Memorial Room museum at Soldiers' Tower will be open to visitors for Spring Reunion. Hours: May 27, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.; May 28, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.; May 29, 1 to 3 p.m. *Soldiers' Tower.*

U of T Sports Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony.

Thursday, June 2

Every year the Sports Hall of Fame honours U of T's greatest Varsity athletes and builders. This year eight individuals, two builders and two teams will be inducted. Reception, Great Hall, Hart House, 6 p.m.; ceremony, Hart House Theatre, 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$30, 12 and under \$15; in person, Hart House or www.uofttix.ca.

Global Health & Global Health Ethics: Book Launch and Roundtable Discussion.

Tuesday, June 7

A roundtable discussion and launch of *Global Health and Global Ethics*. Student Lounge, Health Sciences Building, 155 College St. 4:30 to 6 p.m. Information: www.events.utoronto.ca; RSVP: elayna.fremes@utoronto.ca.

Finding the Words Book Launch.

Thursday, June 9

Launch of *Finding the Words*, edited by Jared Bland. Special guests include: Stacey May Fowles, Guy Gavriel Kay and Linden MacIntyre, contributing writers; Professor Nick Mount, MC. 6:30 p.m. Innis College Town Hall. RSVP: rsvp.innis@utoronto.ca.

Art With Insight Conversation: Performing Poetics and Exhibition Catalogue Launch.

Wednesday, June 22

A discussion of the esthetics, politics and significance of Suzy Lake's work, with curators Matthew Brower and Carla Garnet and Dot Tuer, assistant curator, photography, AGO. U of T Art Centre, Laidlaw Wing, University College. 7 to 9 p.m.

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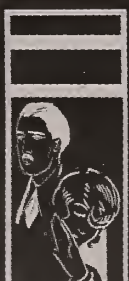
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COMMITTEES

CHAIR, DEPARTMENT OF ITALIAN STUDIES

An advisory committee has been established in the Faculty of Arts & Science to recommend a chair of the Department of Italian Studies. Members are: Professors Meric Gertler, dean, Faculty of Arts & Science (chair); Salvatore Bancheri, language studies (Italian studies), U of T Mississauga; Parth Bhatt, French; Brian Corman, dean, School of Graduate Studies; Francesco Guardiani and Franco Pierno, Italian studies; and Ito Peng, associate dean (interdisciplinary and international affairs); and Rachele Longo Lavorato, senior lecturer, Italian studies; Alison Forrester, departmental assistant, Italian studies; and Zachary D'Onofrio, undergraduate student, and Joanne Granata, graduate student, Italian studies.

The committee would appreciate receiving nominations and/or comments from interested members of the university community. These should be submitted to Professor Meric Gertler, dean, Faculty of Arts & Science, Room 2005, Simcoe Hall or officeofthedeans.artsci@utoronto.ca by May 10.



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THE VALUE OF TEACHER-MENTORS

BY MICHAEL WILEY



Outside the main door of room 2170 in the Medical Sciences Building there is a photograph of a fellow named Harry Whittaker. The photograph is mounted next to a plaque that celebrates the 53 years that Whittaker devoted to teaching histology, the microscopic structure of cells, tissues and organs, to students in the Faculty of Medicine at this university. The inscription includes the notation: “The University of Toronto medical students and alumni who had the pleasure of attending his lectures will never forget the contribution of this special man.”

Whittaker died in 1985. Room 2170 is now the Harry Whittaker Microscope Teaching Lab. The plaque and an endowment for the annual Harry Whittaker Teaching Award were funded by the students and alumni of the Faculty of Medicine in memory of this remarkable teacher. Perhaps more remarkable is that Whittaker wasn’t a professor. In fact, he didn’t have a university education — at least not a formal one. He was hired during the depression years and taught to prepare microscope slides for research and teaching in the Department of Anatomy. He was soon involved in helping with preparations for the medical student histology laboratories and practical examinations and with the photography for Grant’s *Atlas of Anatomy* and Ham’s *Histology*, both leading texts of the day.

Still later, he was called on to operate the slide projector (the newest innovation in classroom technology at the time) during histology lectures. Through his on-the-job training, he developed a sound practical knowledge of microscopic anatomy and an enthusiasm for the subject that he was keen to share. In a natural progression, it led to impromptu lab talks to the medical class, which soon became a regular and valued part of the curriculum.

When I began graduate studies in preparation for an academic career 40 years ago, the focus was almost exclusively on research training; there was little formal instruction in the roles and responsibilities of an educator or how to contribute effectively in a teaching role. Consequently, as a novice faculty member, my first experiences with teaching were pretty awkward — both for me and my students. In the absence of other obvious resources to help me develop my teaching abilities, I relied on the advice of more experienced members of the department, especially the ones that had a “great teacher”

reputation. Students sought to be in their classes, seminars, tutorials and lab groups for their well-known teaching skills. Fortunately, there were several, and Whittaker was one of them. They became my mentors and role models. Without exception, they were welcoming, always ready to talk about teaching and share their teaching materials, tips, insights and advice.

Through Whittaker’s example in particular, I came to understand that the learner, not the teacher, is the most important element of the enterprise. He reminded me always to “try to see it from the student’s side of the classroom.” He had a welcoming manner that made him exceedingly approachable. Students knew that their academic success was important to him. His lab talks were famous for their clarity and his ability to simplify complex concepts by using simple analogies drawn from everyday experience. He knew that teaching is a fundamental test of understanding.

One of his frequent aphorisms was “Keep it simple. If you can’t explain something to your little brother or sister, you probably don’t understand it yourself.” His focus was the individual, not the class, and he took the time to learn the name of each student — no mean feat with an enrolment of more than 250. If you ask any of the students from those years — now seasoned clinicians — to name their favourite teachers, Whittaker’s name is always one of the first they offer.

Preparation for an academic career requires development of the knowledge, skills and attitudes that are necessary to effectively contribute to the teaching and research mission of the university. Knowledge and skills develop through study and practice. Attitude develops through interactions experienced with a variety of role models in the academic community. Through these interactions, newcomers can decide that teaching is an integral part of the professor’s role or a distraction from one’s research, and so to be valued less.

The attitude of this institution towards the value of the professor’s role as an educator is readily apparent through the increasing emphasis teaching receives in hiring, tenure and promotion decisions. Some departments have increased their attention to how teaching is profiled at every stage of the faculty search and selection process, for example, by asking applicants to give a sample teaching session in addition to the traditional research seminar as part of the process.

The university also supports many programs to help students and faculty develop a better understanding of the theory and practice of teaching. For example, the School of Graduate Studies includes a teaching component in the Graduate Professional Skills program and a number of graduate departments now offer courses in discipline-specific issues in teaching. Several faculties have centres for faculty development that focus on advancing the teaching and educational goals of their particular constituencies.

All three campuses include centres of educational expertise that offer a variety of programming with the goal of advancing the teaching and learning enterprise for faculty at all career stages. Moreover, these centres are places where faculty from different disciplines, in different roles and at all career stages, can learn from each other and share ideas and innovations to support student learning and advance the teaching mission of the university. However, in the growth of these important facilities there is a risk that the value of mentoring by experienced colleagues at the departmental level may be overlooked.

I benefitted tremendously at the outset of my career from the example of dedicated teachers like Whittaker. I believe the skills, attitudes and attributes they demonstrated on a daily basis in the classroom, tutorial and teaching laboratory were extremely important to my own development as a teacher. The advantages of structured programs for faculty development in education are clear. However, they would be well complemented at the

departmental level by the availability of experienced teacher-mentors for those at the outset of their university careers.

Many departments have adopted the practice of linking a junior faculty member to a more senior faculty member with a well-established research track record. The research mentor is available to provide practical advice and guidance to help the new recruit succeed in establishing a place as an independent researcher. To overlook the opportunity of encouraging and facilitating a similar link to a teaching mentor risks sending an unintended message about the importance of the professor’s role as a teacher.

Teaching mentors could be drawn from members of a department that have demonstrated exemplary skills and a particular commitment to teaching. Every department has these highly effective teachers. The teaching and research mentor could be one and the same, but need not be. A teaching mentor can provide practical advice in how to meet discipline-specific teaching challenges. He or she can help new faculty define and develop their particular teaching goals and find the appropriate resources, facilities and services that will help them achieve those goals. These mentors can help new faculty begin to develop their own teaching philosophies and their teaching dossiers or portfolios.

The mentors and role models I encountered at the outset of my career had a profound influence on my professional development as a teacher and I am indebted to them. The role of the mentor is a well-established paradigm for teacher development in primary and secondary education. An established mechanism for linking new faculty with skilled teacher-mentors in the university would further deepen the culture of teaching within departments, help new faculty assume their roles as teachers and improve the educational experience overall for our students at the University of Toronto.

Michael Wiley, a professor in the Division of Anatomy and Department of Surgery at the Faculty of Medicine, is a member of the President’s Teaching Academy. The Teaching Academy was founded in 2006 and consists of members who have received the President’s Teaching Award, the highest honour for teaching at the University of Toronto. While individual members of the academy serve as teaching ambassadors, the collective advances teaching as a valued pillar at the University of Toronto.